

CHAPTER 225  
SB 17 – FINAL VERSION

22May2013... 1585h  
06/12/13 2102EBA

2013 SESSION

13-0857  
01/03

SENATE BILL **17**

AN ACT establishing a commission to study palliative care and associated quality of life initiatives.

SPONSORS: Sen. Gilmour, Dist 12; Sen. Odell, Dist 8; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Boutin, Dist 16; Sen. Reagan, Dist 17; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Stiles, Dist 24

COMMITTEE: Health, Education and Human Services

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ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to study palliative care and associated quality of life initiatives.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through~~].  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Thirteen*

AN ACT                    establishing a commission to study palliative care and associated quality of life initiatives.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1            225:1 New Chapter; Commission to Study Palliative Care and Associated Quality of Life  
2 Initiatives. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 126-V the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 126-W

COMMISSION TO STUDY PALLIATIVE CARE AND  
ASSOCIATED QUALITY OF LIFE INITIATIVES

6            126-W:1 Commission to Study Palliative Care and Associated Quality of Life Initiatives;  
7 Membership; Duties.

8            I. There is established a commission to study palliative care and associated quality of life  
9 initiatives. The members of the commission shall be appointed within 45 days of the effective date of  
10 this chapter and shall be as follows:

11                    (a) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

12                    (b) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the  
13 house of representatives.

14                    (c) The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or designee.

15                    (d) The commissioner of the insurance department, or designee.

16                    (e) A licensed hospice and palliative care physician, appointed by the New Hampshire  
17 Medical Society.

18                    (f) A licensed hospice and palliative care nurse, appointed by the New Hampshire  
19 Nurses' Association.

20                    (g) A licensed social worker specializing in palliative care, appointed by the  
21 New Hampshire chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

22                    (h) A representative of a hospital with a dedicated palliative care program, appointed by  
23 the New Hampshire Hospital Association.

24                    (i) A representative of a Medicare certified home health and hospice agency, appointed  
25 by the Home Care Association of New Hampshire.

26                    (j) A representative of the New Hampshire Hospice and Palliative Care Organization,  
27 appointed by the organization.

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1           (k) A representative of spiritual care professionals specializing in palliative care,  
2 appointed by the New Hampshire Council of Churches.

3           (l) A representative of a nursing home facility, appointed by the New Hampshire Health  
4 Care Association.

5           (m) Two public members, appointed by the governor.

6           II. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when  
7 attending to the duties of the commission.

8           III. The commission's duties shall include, but not be limited to:

9           (a) Assessing the general knowledge of the citizens of New Hampshire regarding  
10 palliative care and hospice services.

11           (b) Evaluating the access, effectiveness, utilization, and timeliness of palliative and  
12 hospice care.

13           (c) Considering requiring continuing education credits for professional relicensure of  
14 health care providers involved with palliative, hospice, and pain management services.

15           (d) Reviewing options for increasing the knowledge and use by the public of advanced  
16 directives, including directions to the providers regarding life sustaining treatment.

17           (e) Discussing potential deficits in third party payments for hospice or palliative care  
18 services as a barrier for use of palliative and hospice care.

19           IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members.  
20 The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the senate member. The first meeting of the  
21 commission shall be held within 60 days of the effective date of this section. Eight members of the  
22 commission shall constitute a quorum.

23           V. The commission shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed  
24 legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate  
25 clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library in the form of an interim report on or  
26 before November 1, 2013 and a final report on or before June 1, 2014.

27           225:2 Repeal. RSA 126-W:1, relative to the commission to study palliative care and associated  
28 quality of life initiatives, is repealed.

29           225:3 Effective Date.

30           I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect June 1, 2014.

31           II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

32  
33 Approved: July 15, 2013

34 Effective Date: I. Section 2 shall take effect June 1, 2014.

35           II. Remainder shall take effect July 15, 2013.